

fire and flash of brass, and *you* will not escape” (*al-Rahmaan* 33-35). Despite their power and speed of movement, they are not able to go beyond such limits; if they try, they will be destroyed.

## They are not able to open the closed doors that have had the name of Allah mentioned over them

The Prophet (peace be upon him) stated,

وَأَجِيفُوا الْأَبْوَابَ وَادْكُرُوا اسْمَ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهَا فَإِنَّ الشَّيْطَانَ لَا يَفْتَحُ بَابًا  
أَجِيفَ وَذَكَرَ اسْمَ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ

“Close the doors and mention Allah’s name upon them, for Satan cannot open a door that has been closed up upon him [and has had the name of Allah mentioned over it].” There is also the following hadith in the two *Sahihs*,

فَإِنَّ الشَّيْطَانَ لَا يَفْتَحُ بَابًا مُغْلَقًا وَأَوْكُوا قِرْبَكُمْ وَادْكُرُوا اسْمَ اللَّهِ وَخَمِّرُوا  
آنِيَتَكُمْ وَادْكُرُوا اسْمَ اللَّهِ وَلَوْ أَنْ تَعْرَضُوا عَلَيْهَا شَيْئًا وَأَطْفِئُوا مَصَابِيحَكُمْ

“Certainly, Satan does not open a shut door. Tie your buckets and mention Allah’s name upon them, even if it is just putting something over it, and extinguish your lamps?

In *Musnad Ahmad*, there is the following hadith,

أَغْلِقُوا أَبْوَابَكُمْ وَخَمِّرُوا آنِيَتَكُمْ وَأَطْفِئُوا سُرُجَكُمْ وَأَوْكُوا أَسْتِيْنَتَكُمْ فَإِنَّ  
الشَّيْطَانَ لَا يَفْتَحُ بَابًا مُغْلَقًا وَلَا يَكْشِفُ غِطَاءً وَلَا يَحُلُّ وَكَاءً

<sup>1</sup> This was recorded by Abu Dawud, Ahmad, ibn Hibban and al-Haakim with a *sahih* chain. See al-Abani, *Sahih al-Jaami*, vol. 1, p. 229.

<sup>2</sup> *Sahih al-Jaami*, vol. 1, p. 270.

“Close your doors and cover your vessels and tie up your waterskins and put out your lamps, for Satan does not open a closed door, nor does he take off a cover, nor does he untie the waterskins.”

## RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR ACTIONS

### The Ultimate Purpose of Their Creation

The jinn were created for the same purpose that mankind was created,

وَمَا خَلَقْتُ الْجِنَّ وَالْإِنْسَ إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُونِ

“I created the jinn and humankind only that they worship Me” (*al-Dhaariyaat* 56). Therefore, jinn are responsible for their actions and have been ordered to perform some acts and to abstain from performing others. Concerning he who is obedient, Allah will be pleased with him and he will enter paradise. For whosoever disobeys and rebels, he is given the hell-fire. Many statements of the Quran and hadith indicate this fact.

On the Day of judgment, Allah will address both the jinn and mankind with the following words,

يَمَعْشَرَ الْجِنَّ وَالْإِنْسِ أَلَمْ يَأْتِكُمْ رُسُلٌ مِّنكُمْ يَقُصُّونَ عَلَيْكُمْ آيَاتِي  
وَيُنذِرُونَكُمْ لِقَاءَ يَوْمِكُمْ هَذَا قَالُوا شَهِدْنَا عَلَىٰ أَنْفُسِنَا<sup>ط</sup> وَغَرَّبَتْهُمْ  
الْحَيَاةُ الدُّنْيَا وَشَهِدُوا عَلَىٰ أَنْفُسِهِمْ أَنَّهُمْ كَانُوا كَافِرِينَ